

U.S. Serial No. 09/668,788
Filing Date: September 22, 2000

REMARKS

Claims 1, 34 and 37 have been amended as set forth above. Claims 2-4, 7-17, 21-33, 35-36 and 38-44 have been cancelled without prejudice. Upon entry of the amendments, Claims 1, 5-6, 18-20, 34, and 37 are pending in the present application.

Support for the amendments can be found throughout the specification and in the claims as originally filed. Accordingly, no new matter has been added to the application by entering this amendment.

Pursuant to the USPTO Revised Format for Amendments, the amendments to the claims are shown by ~~striketrough~~ for deleted matter and underlining for added matter. No accompanying "clean" version has been supplied.

Allowable Claim 39

In the Office Action mailed on August 12, 2003, the Examiner indicated that Claim 39 was allowable if it is rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, as set forth above, Claim 1 has been amended to include all of the limitations of Claim 39 and all of the limitations of Claim 36, the base claim from which Claim 39 depended. No new matter has been added to amended Claim 1 as it merely includes limitations that were already present in Claims 36 and 39. Furthermore, dependent Claims 34 and 37 have been amended to depend from independent Claim 1, and therefore, no new matter has been added. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is now in condition for allowance.

Applicants have not specifically addressed the rejections of the claims that have been cancelled. However, Applicants reserve the right to pursue the cancelled claims and argue the rejections of those claims in subsequent prosecution.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the rejections set forth in the outstanding Final Office Action have been addressed and that the application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants request the expeditious allowance of the pending claims.

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The undersigned has made a good faith effort to respond to all of the rejections in the case and to place the claims in condition for immediate allowance. Nevertheless, if any undeveloped issues remain or if any issues require clarification, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned to discuss such issues.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: 10/10/03

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